

5 January 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Distribution

FROM:

Chief, Production Assessment and
Improvement Division

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SUBJECT:

Interagency Estimates of the Soviet Military
Threat

1. Admiral Murphy has directed D/OPEI to conduct a study of the process of developing interagency estimates of all aspects of the Soviet military threat. This project is to be accorded high priority and is to be completed by January 20. The objectives are to address (a) those aspects of the NIE 11-3/8 competitive analysis which relate to evaluation and improvement of Community performance and (b) the adequacy of Community organization, procedures, resources, data bases and trained analysts as they pertain to the more general topic of interagency estimates of the Soviet threat. In a related project, the NIO/SP and are analyzing the validity of the NIE 11-3/8 B Team criticisms of past strategic force estimates. STATINTL

2. The effort will involve two tasks, conducted in parallel:

- Task 1 will document past trends in the treatment of selected topics in interagency estimates of Soviet strategic and general purpose military forces. These topics will be selected on the basis of the B Team critique and the findings of the ICS semi-annual NSC review.
- Task 2 will address Community organization, procedures, resources, data bases and analytic manpower for future Soviet threat estimates.

3. Procedures and schedule for Task 1 are as follows:

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Jan 4 --

Develop list of topics to be studied

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Develop study guidelines for review team

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Jan 5 -- Develop list of interagency documents to
be reviewed STATINTL

-- Assign topics to members of the review
team and discuss procedures with the
team STATINTL

Jan 5-16-- Review team conduct trend research (all)

Jan 17-18 -- Review team compile results (coordinator
to be determined)

Jan 19-20 -- Integrate results of Task 1 into the final
report STATINTL

4. Procedures for Task 2 are less well-defined at this stage,
but are being addressed by Items to STATINTL
be accomplished during the next few days include:


- Development of a definitive list of problems or issues
to be addressed in the final report.
- Development of an outline of the final report in enough
detail to provide a coherent and logical framework for
addressing these problems/issues.
- Identification of planned future interagency departmental
intelligence products relating to the Soviet military threat.

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